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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Werner LEHNER et al.

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Application No.: 09/755,197

Attorney Dkt. 31833-169020

Filed: January 8, 2001

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MONITORING A DETECTION REGION OF A
WORKING ELEMENT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments and remarks into the file of the subject application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the originally filed specification with the substitute specification attached hereto.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-42 without prejudice to their reentry at a later date.

Please add the following new claims:

--43. An apparatus for monitoring a detection region of a working element, comprising:

at least one camera generating image information from the detection region, at least one protection zone being defined inside the detection region; and

an evaluation unit receiving the image information from the camera and comparing the image information to reference images to detect endangered objects within the at least one protection zone, wherein the working element is disabled by the evaluation unit when at least

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